JUDGE LINN'S CHARGE

TO THE Grand Jury, August Term, 1861.

GENTLEMLEN OF THE GRAND JURY:-We eater upon the discharge of our official offices to-day under very soleme and impressive circumstances. Since the last term of this court, events have occurred in the history ry of our National Government of the most serious and starting character. I need not refer to these events in detail as they form refer to 61.00 events in detail as they form a conspicuous part of the history of the rebellion against which this nation is now struggling, with which every intelligent eitizen is presumed to be familiar. We have fallen upon strange times, and are experiencing a national trial, which would seem not to have been apprehended by the fathers and founders of this Confederacy. In that admirable Constitution by which the Union and the expense of these States were formed and under which, until recently, remained and under which, until recently, remained linked together by a strong and penceful bond of union, there are no provissions which contemplate either an amicable separation or an attempt on the part of any one or more of the States to forcibly withdraw from the Union, and, consequently, those public func-tionaries whose duty it is to provide for the public safety and protection have been oc-casionally embarrassed by constitutional resirictions, apparent or real, or want of

constitutional authority to meet fully and promptly the exigencies of the times. When we consider the magnitude of the rebellion, the years which have been occupied in diligent and systematic preparation for this attempt to overthrow the government ---the number and the character of the individuals concerned in it -the object and purviduals concerned in it—the object and purposes which, as we have reason to believe, have long been secretly meditated and are now being openly and defiantly avowed—the acts which they have already done in furtherance of their plans, and the further outrages and atrocities which they would seem to have in immediate contemplation, we cannot but co-sider it the most alarming event that has ever occurred in our history. There is enough in this to fill the stoatest heart with dismay and terror.

when our country is in the midst of such perils, every citizen has duties which flow from the allegiance that he owes to the government and which as a loyal freeman he is bound to perform. The sum of these duties is that he shall do all that in him heat to aid in performing and defaulties there were and in protecting and defending the existence and the honor of the nation. This is a demand to which a patriot is always ready to yield a cheefful obedience. Next to his Maker, he acknowledges that his country has the highest claims upon him.

We as a constituent branch of the State department here duties deadling acknowledges.

Government have duties devolving upon as, which relate to the present condition of affairs—duties which we should perform, promotly, faithfully, and without fear, favor or affection, but we should at the same time give to them a temperate and impartial consideration. Of these I shall come presently

um compelled, though with deep regret, to believe that there is not at the present time amongst the inhabitants of the loyal States, an entirely unanimous and hearty the operation with the ballocal government in the attempt now making to suppress the rebellion, unly, more, I am credibly informed that there are amongst us not only persons who secretly sympathize with the rebellion, but those also who boldly and publicity avow sentiments which are in opposition to the authority of the government.—

Such presents which the content of the cont

which they owe as citizens. The present generation of Americans know but little experimentally of a state of war, and it therefore should not surprise us that their attention has never been particularly directed to the duties which at such a time are incident to the religious the religion to the religion to the religion that their attention to the religion that their states which at such a time are incident.

our present inquiry and of which we shall now proceed to speak, are such as involve an attempt to weaken the strong arm of civil power, or a contempt of lawful authority.— Thus, for example, to dissuade a witness from Inus, for example, to dissuade a witness from giving evidence, or from obeying the process of subpeana, to persuade or assist a prisoner in custedy to escape; to refuse obedience to the call of a police officer for assistance to quell a riot or apprehend an offender or endeavor to pursuade athers to disobey such call, are all misdemeanors of this sort, based more the rejiculal ties in the subscript to of for resistance to lawfully constituted authority. It is safe to ascert as a general principle, that any wilful artempt to resist the authority of the government, or to prevent or hinder the success of its plans or designs in the prosecution of a war offensive or defensive, or to induce or pursuade others to do the like, is unlawful and punishable as a high misdemeanor. Now apply this general principle to the present condition of our national affairs. A state of war actually exists. The President of the United States by virtue of the power reposed in him, has issued his proclamation calling upon the Governors of the several States to furnish their quota of troops for the organization of a mil ernors of the several States to furnish their quota of troops for the organization of a military force sufficient to protect the government and suppress a formidable rebellion.—
The Government of Pennsylvania in response to this demand has issued a proclamation calling upon all able-bedied citizens within the Commonwealth, subject to military duty, to form themselves into military companies, and regiments, to be called and mustered into the public service. Now it must be perfectly apparent to the most ordinary understanding that any attempt to prevent the carrying out of the design would be a gross insult to the government and a daring contempt of the author ty vested in it and theretempt of the author ty vested in it and therefore a high misdemeanor. For if the designand plans of the government can with impunity be thwarted and rendered abortive, then all our high sounding theories respecting the supremacy of the government, and allegiance and sovereignty are but beautiful figments

the State wherein it was committed, but where, es in the present instance, war is waged against the federal government, the federal courts have exclusive jurisdiction—This court cannot, therefore, take expairance of any act of treason, or misprision of treason growing out of this rebellion inasment as the war levied by the confiderate States, as they are called, is against the general government and not against the State of Pounsylvanis.

But, as has already been intimated, direct are misprisions of a positive nature, some of which are grave misdementors, and may, like treason or misprision of treason, be offences against State or federal authority as the case may be. I have heretofare neglect to give information of the commission of an act of treason and is what is termed a negative misprision.

The positive misprisions which concern our present in the Contract of the press and the contents of printing offices have been destroyed by a resort to violence and mob rule. This is much to be deplored on extent: for it would involve one of the most and not against the State of Pounsylvanistics.

But, as has already been intimated, direct of the press was spoken of the constitution, in 1787, when the freedom of the press was spoken of the constitution, in 1787, when the freedom of the press was spoken of the constitution, in 1787, when the freedom of the press were well marked, and have contract of the constitution of the constitution of the formation of the constitution of the formation of the constitution of the constitution of the formation of the constitution of the press is indeed essential to a feel the press, reported to give information of the commission of an act of treason and is what is termed a negative misprision.

The positive misprisions which concern our positive nature of the press is indiced essential to a feel the press of the press of discounts the country because of the market of present all violations of this tis built to revisit give in the country because of the three resorts and public journal

"indeed essential to a free State; but "this consist in laying no previous restraints upon publications, and not in freedom from censure for criminal matter when published. Every freemen has an undoubted right to lay what sentiments he pleases before the public; to "forbid this is to destroy the freedom of the press; but if he publish what is in the press; but if he publish what is in the press; but if he publish what is in the press; but if he publish what is in the press; but if he publish what is in the press; but if he publish what is in the press; but if he publish what is in the press; but if he publish what is in the press. "the press; but if he publish what is im "proper, mischievous or illegal, he must "take the consequences of his own timerity. To subject the press to the restrictive power of a license, as was
formally done, is to subject all freedom
of sentiment to the prejudices of one
man, and make him the arbitrary and
infallible judge of all controverted points
in learning, religion and government.—
But to punish any dangerous or offensive writings, which when, published,
shall, on a fair and impartial trial be
adjudged of a pernicious tendency, is "shall, on a fair and impartial trial be "adjudged of a pernicious tendency, is necessary for the preservation of peace and good order, of government and religion, the only, solid foundations of civil liberty. Thus the will of individuals is still left free; the abuse only of that free will is the object of legal punishment. Neither is any restraint hereigh to legal upon freedom of thought or is 'ishment. Neither is any restraint here-by laid upon freedom of thought or in-"by laid upon freedom of thought or in"quiry; liberty of private sentiment is
still left; the disseminating or making
"public of bad sentiments destructive to
"the ends of society, is the crime which
"society corrects. A man may be allowed
"to keep poisons in his closet, but not
"publicly to vend them as cordials, and
"the only plausible argument heretofore
"used for restraining the just freedom of
"the press, that it was necessary to pre-"the press, that it was necessary to pre-"went the daily abuse of it, will entirely "loose its force, when it is shown (by a "seasonable execution of the laws) that "the press cannot be abused to any bad "purpose, without incurring a suitable "punishment; whereas it never can be "used to any good one, when under the control of an inspector. So true will it be found that to censure the licentious, is to maintain the liberty of the press."

and sovereignty are but beautiful figments. If the imagination. Such taleration could spring from no principle other than would assert that the citizen is only bound by his allegiance to the greenment so long as is measures may be in accordance with his own views, and is obliged to obey only such laws as meet his entire approval.

Suppose a riot to occur in one of our streets. It is the dury of the officers of the law to suppress it, and it is the dury of all good citizens to aid and assist, for without such regulation the public peace could not be main. who secretly sympathize with the rebellien, but those also who boldly and publiely avow sentiments which are in opposition to the authority of the government.—
Such persons, whilst they merit the contempt of the people of this, and every other
eivived aution on earth, and are bringing
disgrace upon themselves and their posterity,
should nevertheless receive the punishment
which the law assigns to them.

This leads us to consider and define the
effences which may be committed directly
regimes the government. Although some of
these belong to the exclusive jurisdiction of
these belong to the exclusive jurisdiction of
the ederal courts, it may not be out of place
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may find a manufal law. In their State constit

which tends to embarrass or hinder the success of its military defences, or to weaken its long, and if providence permits, we will see by ou all. We were taken on the 22d of Jutation on the part of those who administer the government to resort to such measures, whenever exigencies arise that in their opinion require it, would expose them to the light indignation of their constituents, and long, and if providence permits, we will sell be exchanged before very long, and if providence permits, we will sell be exchanged before very long, and if providence permits, we will sell be exchanged before very long, and if providence permits, we will sell be exchanged before very long, and if providence permits, we will sell be exchanged before very long, and if providence permits, we will sell be exchanged before very long, and if providence permits, we will sell be exchanged before very long, and if providence permits, we will sell be exchanged before very long, and if providence permits, we will sell be exchanged before very long, and if providence permits, we will sell be exchanged before very long, and if providence permits, we will sell be exchanged before very long, and if providence permits, we will sell be exchanged before very long, and if providence permits, we will sell be exchanged before very long, and if providence permits, we will sell be exchanged before very long, and if providence permits, we will sell be exchanged before very long, and if providence permits, we will sell be exchanged before very long, and if providence permits, we will sell be exchanged before very long, and if providence permits, we will sell be exchanged before very long, and if providence permits, we will sell be exchanged before very long, and if providence permits, we will sell be exchanged before very long, and if providence permits, we will sell be exchanged before very long, and if providence permits, and long, and if providence permits, and long, and if providence permits, and long, and if providence permits are providence permi ion require it, would expose them to the just indignation of their constituents, and would prove them to be unworthy of their high trust. During the revolution, an Act was passed in this State, on the 11th Feb. 1779, the 4th section whereof is in these words: "If any person or persons within this State shall attempt to convey intelligence to the enemies of this State, or the United States of America, or by publicity or deliberately speaking or writing against our public defence, or shall maliciously and advisedly endevor to excite the people to resist visedly endevor to excite the people to resist the government of this Commonwealth, or persude them to return to dependence upon the crown of Great Britain, or shall maliciously and advisedly terrify or discourage the people from enlisting in the service of the Commonwealth, or shall stir up, excite or raise tumults, disorders or insurrections suffer imprisonment during the present war, and forfeit to the Commonwealth one half of his or her lands and tenements, goods and

Tary purpose, expired by at the close of the war.

We noticed that several newspapers published in New York and elsewhere, which have rendered themselves obnoxiows to the people because of their alleged secession proclivities, have been brought to the notice of our preper courts, and we may therefore expect before long, we shall be favored with an oninion on this subject from the Circuit of Snowshoe Twp.

service of the control of the service of the control of the contro

DEAR PARENTS:—I seat myself this morning, to inform you of my present situation. We are now in Richmond, as prisoners—44 in number out of our Company. I am in good health, as ever, and feel well, and beginning to the property of the prope rent expression of disloyalty or indignity to the government—and, moreover, that if there should be any abuses of the liberty of the press, resort will be had to legal authority, and not to the power of an excited mob. There is no necessity for a resort to violence the government has ample power to correct such evils, and in such times as these has never scrupled to exert it when to correct such evils, and in such times as the sense of imminent peril, belongs to the government as fully as to an individual, and it is a great mistake to suppose that in time of war a government may not remove every obstacle which tends to embarrass or hinder the success of its military defences, or to weaken its

I remain your son, W. P. PALMER.

To JOSEPH PALMER, Potters Mills, Centre pounty, Pa.

ATTENTION VOLUNTEERS .- The company about to be organized for the service by Lieut Wh. L. Raphile and Sargeant James Hughes, is fast filling its ranks, and has ancounced next Tuesday as the time of its departure. These gentlemen, havingserved in the three months service, are known to be qualified to assume command of, and of lead to victory all that may enlist under

or raise tumults, disorders or insurrections in the States, or dispose them to favor the enemy, or oppose and endeavor to prevent the measures carrying on in support of the freedom and independence of the said United States; every such person being thereof legally convicted by the evidence of two or more credible witnesses, in any Court of General Quarter Sessions, shall be adjudged guilty of misprison of Treason, and shall suffer imprisonment during the present war, a defect in the store pipe. a defect in the stove pipe.

If you want something good to eat, go to This act having been passed for a tempo- H. D. Ruble, under the Conrad House, where ary purpose, expired by its own limitation the close of the war.

you will get Oysters, Sardines, Eels, Fresh Fish, Rabbit, Chicken Soup, Barbacned

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